

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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June 1, 2020

Iroquois County Broadcasting Company
WGFA Radio
1973 East 1950 North Road
Watseka, IL 60970

Re: Iroquois County Broadcasting Company
WIBK(AM), Watseka, Illinois
Facility Identification Number: 29202
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant

This is in reference to the request filed May 28, 2020, on behalf of Iroquois County Broadcasting Company ("ICB"). ICB requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WIBK(AM) with parameters at variance from license values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within license limits.¹

In support of the request, ICB states that an STL antenna needs to be installed on tower 2 of the WIBK(AM) array and repairs need to be made to the antenna tuning unit of tower 3. Therefore, the station is requesting STA to operate with parameters at variance and/or reduced power.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WIBK(AM) may operate with parameters at variance from licensed values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits. In addition, in accordance with Section 1.30003(b)(1) of the Commission's rules, a partial proof of performance shall be conducted both before and after installation of the antenna to establish that the AM array will not be and has not been adversely affected. If the operating parameters of the AM array change following the installation, the results of the partial proof of performance shall be filed by the AM station with the Commission on Form 302-AM. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints

¹ WIBK(AM) is licensed for daytime only operation on 1360 kHz with a power of 1 kilowatt, employing a directional antenna pattern (DAD-D).

of interference are received. ICB must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from exposure to radio frequency radiation in excess of the Commission's exposure guidelines. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1310.

This authority expires on **November 28, 2020**.

STA Advisory: Section 309(f) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, authorizes the Commission to grant STA in cases of "extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary authorizations in the public interest and when delay in the institution of the temporary operations would seriously prejudice the public interest." However, Section 309(f) is not a means by which a licensee/permittee may circumvent established processing procedures which require the filing of an application, nor is it a means by which a broadcaster may enhance his facility or make operation more convenient for the broadcaster. Stations operating with less than licensed facilities under temporary authorities can be viewed as receiving the benefit of a larger protection area than that in which they are currently providing service.

Accordingly, Special Temporary Authorities by nature are to be temporary and are not intended for extended use. Licensees of stations operating under temporary authorities are reminded that timely restoration of permanent facilities is the responsibility of the licensee and should be undertaken expeditiously. Any request for extension of special temporary authorities carries an increased burden with each subsequent request.

Therefore, requests for extension of STA will be granted only where the licensee can show that one or more of the following criteria have been met:

- Restoration of licensed facilities is complete and testing is underway;
- Substantial progress has been made during the most recent STA period toward restoration of licensed operation; or
- No progress has been made during the most recent STA period for reasons clearly beyond the licensee's control, and the licensee has taken all possible steps to expeditiously resolve the problem.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jerome J. Manarchuck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jerome" and last name "Manarchuck" clearly legible.

Jerome J. Manarchuck
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Anne Thomas Paxson, Esq. (via email only)